

Hurricane City Water Board
Meeting Minutes
April 30, 2024

Present: Ken Richins, Mac J Hall, Beven Johnson, Dayton Hall, David Hirschi, Leah Thompson, Mayor Billings, John Slack and Gary Cupp

Guest: Bruce & Linda Zimmerman

Item #1 **Call to order, prayer**

Mac Hall called the meeting to order at 6 pm Dayton Hall gave the prayer.

Item #2 **Review of minutes March 26, 2024**

Mac Hall asked to approve minutes. David Hirschi motion to approve. Bevin Johnson second motion. Motion passed.

Item #3 **Irrigation expansion progress report**

Mac Hall explained that they have had a few meetings. Dayton Hall will be writing a letter stating that everything is in order. There are still some easements they are working on and environmental stuff the engineers need to take care of. The big issue is nature conservancy. Which could shut down the project. The plans are completed and sent to JUC.

The district has the obligation to place excessive water back into the river. Nature conservancy wants to know the exact amount of water.

Mac Hall discussed the water agreement along with a brief discussion from the board.

Item #4 **Discussion on the WCWCD annual water rate increase**

Ken Richins talked about how the district raises the rate at 10 cents per thousand. Which the city has been adopting that same amount for the past 5 years. At the last meeting the district explained that this year they are changing the rate from 10 cents per thousand to 13 cents per thousand. Ken Richins is asking for a recommendation from the water board to take this to the city council on adopting the 13 cents per thousand. Ken explained that by us adopting this we can use that money to take care of the projects that need to be done. The 13 cents would be across the board. So, the total would go from 10 cents to 13 cents which would be changed every year. The rate would still be a 2 percent rate increase.

John Slack asked if a cost analysis and savings been run to see how much we are losing with the water leaks that are happening. Ken explained yes, we have done that we have been coming down in our water loss, but we are at 19% water loss 1/3 of that is in the Dixie Springs area. Ken explained we are still working on getting assistance to help replace the failing pipes in Dixie Springs.

Casey Lofthouse motion to go ahead and approve the 13 cents increase across the board when the district imposes their increase. Motion dies no second.

Bevin Johnson Motion to table discussion to the meeting in May. Mike Vercimak second the motion to table the discussion to the meeting in May. Motion passed.

Item #5 Discussion and overview of the 2024-2025 water budget

Ken Richins discussed our budget and asked if any of the board members have questions. Ken went over the projects the Water Department has going on and the projects we have plans to do.

John Slack had a concern about the employees if they are being taken care of and not being short changed on anything like overtime. Kory Wright explained that we have been trying hard and making sure they are all taken care of. We have a new employee starting that currently works in the water department sector in California. We hired Chase Stout back and are happy to have him return.

Ken Richins went over our financial statements the city accountant sends out and where the water department is at 75% of the year. The budget spreadsheet that Angie Tripp keeps track of here in the office is updated as of Monday April 29th. Overall, the Water Department is doing good.

Item #6 Report on the progress of the Gould's Wash Well

Ken Richins said the drillers have been drilling and had some issues with the hammer drill. They went about 420 feet, and it collapsed on top of them. They lost the bit in which the drillers spent two weeks retrieving the bit. They are now putting a better casing down to help stop the collapsing. Ken, explain they have samples every 5 feet he will bring them up for our next meeting so the Water Board can look.

Item #7 Report on water system

Kory Wright talked about the water system is about where we should be at this time of year. We do have some pumps that are down we are waiting on three motors. Everything looks good.

We have the divers coming to clean the tanks.

Item #8 New Business

Kory Wright talked about the pipes that were installed in Dixie Springs and how much we have spent on repairs in the last few years. He explained on every year how the price has increased. We are almost to a million dollars on the repairs that we have done. He has been working on getting a grant put together to help with the replacing of the pipes out in the Dixie Springs area.

Ken Richins had a question about if we are going to allow people to disconnect the secondary irrigation water. Those that have this paid a smaller amount to the district for impact fees. Ken feels like we shouldn't allow them to disconnect since the impact fee has been lowered. Dayton Hall had some concerns about letting them disconnect where they got a lower impact fee with the district. The board had a brief discussion and would like to discuss this later.

Adjourned 8:30 pm